

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Greece	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	Sophocles Venizelos Coldly Received in Crete	DATE DISTR.	8 May 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The reception given by Cretans to Sophocles Venizelos upon his arrival in Crete for his father's memorial service was the coldest and most unenthusiastic ever recorded, with nothing in the nature of a celebration or welcoming festivities in evidence. Very few persons were on hand to greet him, and those present were either officials or politicians.
2. At a meeting with Liberal Party leaders in Rethymnon, Sophocles Venizelos was told by the Mayor of Rethymnon that Nicholas Askoutsis should have been the Center candidate in the by-elections, not Antonios Litinas. Venizelos, stung by this manifestation of party revolt in his one remaining area of Liberal Party control, told the delegation that Litinas was the Liberal Party and EPEK (National Progressive Union of the Center) choice and that any failure on their part to support the official candidate would result in their removal from EPEK ranks.

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1. Comment: The Greek Rally candidate in the Rethymnon by-election on 29 March 1953 won, receiving more votes than the Center parties' candidate and the EDA candidate together.

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